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# Volume 53 - Issue 13 - Monday, December 18, 2017

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## Just Drillin’

### Rose Grad Brings #girlswithdrills Initiative to Rose

Lauren Wiseman  
News Editor

Those who graduate from Rose-Hulman usually return to the campus at Homecoming. Although, for 2013 Mechanical Engineering grad Kisha Bradley, she is coming back this week for a presentation and two demonstrations. This Wednesday, Bradley has two presentations at the Branam Innovation Center; the first at 10 in the morning, the second at 1 in the afternoon. Then, during 10th hour, Bradley will bring her presentation—Entrepreneurship and Makerspaces with a Rose-Hulman Degree—to the Lake Room in the Hulman Memorial Union.

Bradley graduated from Rose and went on to create Bright Box Makerspace in Sheffield, England, but that was not where Bradley’s journey into STEM began. “My journey started 20 years ago, when I had my mind blown,” she writes on her website. After watching a lady clad in a white

lab coat shatter a balloon using liquid nitrogen, Bradley knew she had to stay involved in science, math, engineering, and technology. “That’s why I created Bright Box,” she writes. “There’s no greater joy than seeing young girls have an ‘aha’ moment when creating their own inventions.”

According to their website, Bright Box seeks to “encourage children to be curious, creative and confident.”

Bradley is bringing that mission to Rose through #girlswithdrills. She will be hosting two interactive sessions in the BIC for students.

The first session, taking place at 10 in the morning, is all about Hardware Art. Geared towards kids ages 7 and up, the project is meant to encourage participants to try drilling for the first time to create art with hardware screws. The second session, beginning at 1 in the afternoon, asks the question: What Do You Want to Make? For kids ages

10 and up, the session will bring materials to make birdhouses, bookshelves, rockets, or abstract art. This session plans on challenging kids to

take their skills to the next level.

For these sessions, registration is required because seating is limited. Register at [www.rose-hulman.edu/brightbox](http://www.rose-hulman.edu/brightbox). T-shirts are also available for \$10.

During Bradley’s presentation in the Lake Room, she will talk to students about how her Rose degree and her study abroad experiences have helped her serve her community and pass along a love of science.

Refreshments will be served at the Lake Room presentation. The event is sponsored by Rose-Hulman Feminist Engineers Movement, Rose Innovative Student Entrepreneurs, Branam Innovation Center, Office of Pre-College Outreach, and Office of Cross-Cutting Programs and Emerging Opportunities.

For more information, check out [www.mybrighttoys.com/](http://www.mybrighttoys.com/) and My Rose-Hulman. You can follow Bradley on Twitter @kisha\_bradley.



Kisha Bradley (right) and fellow science enthusiast, Kim.

Photo Courtesy of Bright Box



Page 4: The Grid and the Grand Tour

Page 5: Yaeji and Fruit Cake

Page 6: Celebrating whichever holidays you want

Page 7: Rose Academic All Americans, Intramurals

## The Rose Thorn

### Meet Tuesdays

### 0259 5:15pm

## Graduate Students Spared Final Tax Bill Preserves Tuition Waivers

Marc Schmitt  
Editor-in-Chief

Republicans have agreed on a final tax cut bill that is set to pass and be ready for president Trump to sign into law by the end of the year.

What is particularly relevant for Rose-Hulman students is the absence of a tax on waived income by universities for graduate students. Before reconciling their bills, House Republicans passed a bill that would have substantially raised taxes on 145,000 graduate students and 27,000 undergraduate students, according to Dallas News.

Rose-Hulman graduates pursuing graduate degrees would have been among those affected. Approximately 60 percent of those graduate students are pursuing degrees in STEM.

Graduate students across the country staged protests against the proposed change to the tax code. Students at the University of Maryland College Park wore garbage bags with messages on them, such as “this bill is trash.”

The final version of the bill include lowering the top individual from 39.7 percent to 37 percent, cutting the corporate tax rate to 21 percent, and get rid of the Obamacare individual mandate, which penalizes individuals who do not purchase insurance. The estate tax is preserved by the bill while doubling the exemption. The state and local tax deduction will still be eliminated, but up to \$10,000 can be deducted for property tax.

The bill is estimated to add at least \$1 trillion to the deficit over the next ten years, even after factoring in the higher economic growth. The cuts to individual rates are also temporary, while the corporate rate cuts will be permanent.

The Senate is expected to start debate on the final bill on Monday, with a vote expected on Tuesday. The House will move to vote later in the week, with a bill ready to sign by the end of the week.

President Trump has called the tax bill “one of the greatest Christmas gifts” for the middle-class.

## Make it to Break

### Festive Activities Abound This Week

Lauren Wiseman  
News Editor

Rose-Hulman is already in the throes of the holiday spirit, and a bevy of festive activities are on the docket to carry students through one more week of classes into the winter break. While the temperature may

Wednesday’s Mug Decorating and Gingerbread House Making session ought to help. The Union will have all the supplies students need to express themselves from 11 AM until 2 PM.

All through the week as well, the Union Lobby will have materials for students to wrap and decorate pre-



Photo Courtesy of Student Activities

be dropping—and hopefully grades are not falling along with it—the chances to take a break from studying are going up.

Holiday Happenings kicks off today, running from 10 in the morning until 2 in the afternoon. There will be hot chocolate and cookies to enjoy. In addition to snacks, there are holiday crafts to make

sents before heading home for break. Gift wrapping will be available every day this week before break begins between the hours of 12 and 5 in the evening.

Work is bogging down, but the light is at the end of the tunnel. It is important to take breaks to keep spirits buoyant. So consider putting down the books, grabbing a friend or

## Campus Holiday Break Hours

### Hulman Memorial Union

December 22: 8am-11pm

December 23-January 2: Closed

January 3-5: 8am-5pm

January 6: Closed

January 7: 10am-1am

January 8: Resume Normal Hours

### Vonderschmitt Café

December 22: Closes at 2pm

January 8: Open at 7am

### Beanies

December 22: Closes at 3pm

January 8: Opens at 10am

### Chauncey’s

December 22: 11am-6:30pm

January 7: 5pm-10pm



Photo Courtesy of Student Activities

and take home. The event will also feature a winter-themed photo booth which gives students a chance to make instant print copies or digital copies to take home with them.

If Monday’s crafts were not enough to get out students’ creative sides,

two, and enjoying the festivities.





**Make It & Take It**

December 20th

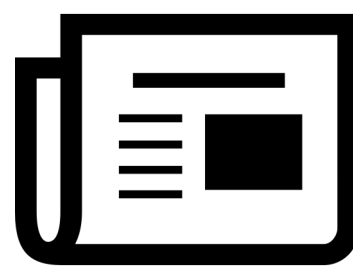
11 am — 2pm, Union

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## Call for Submissions



**Got Art?**

**Submit It!**

Cash Prize Awarded for Best Creation

All students, faculty, and staff are invited to submit their photographs, stories, paintings, poems, drawings, music, videos, sculpture, pottery, digital art, or any other manifestations of creativity.

Submit at:  
<http://rose-ink.wixsite.com/home>

**INK** Rose-Hulman's Literary and Arts Magazine

## Want to access your favorite old issues of The Rose Thorn?

**[scholar.rose-hulman.edu/rosethorn/](http://scholar.rose-hulman.edu/rosethorn/)**



## The Rose Thorn

Looking for General Staff Writers, Business Managers and a Website Manager

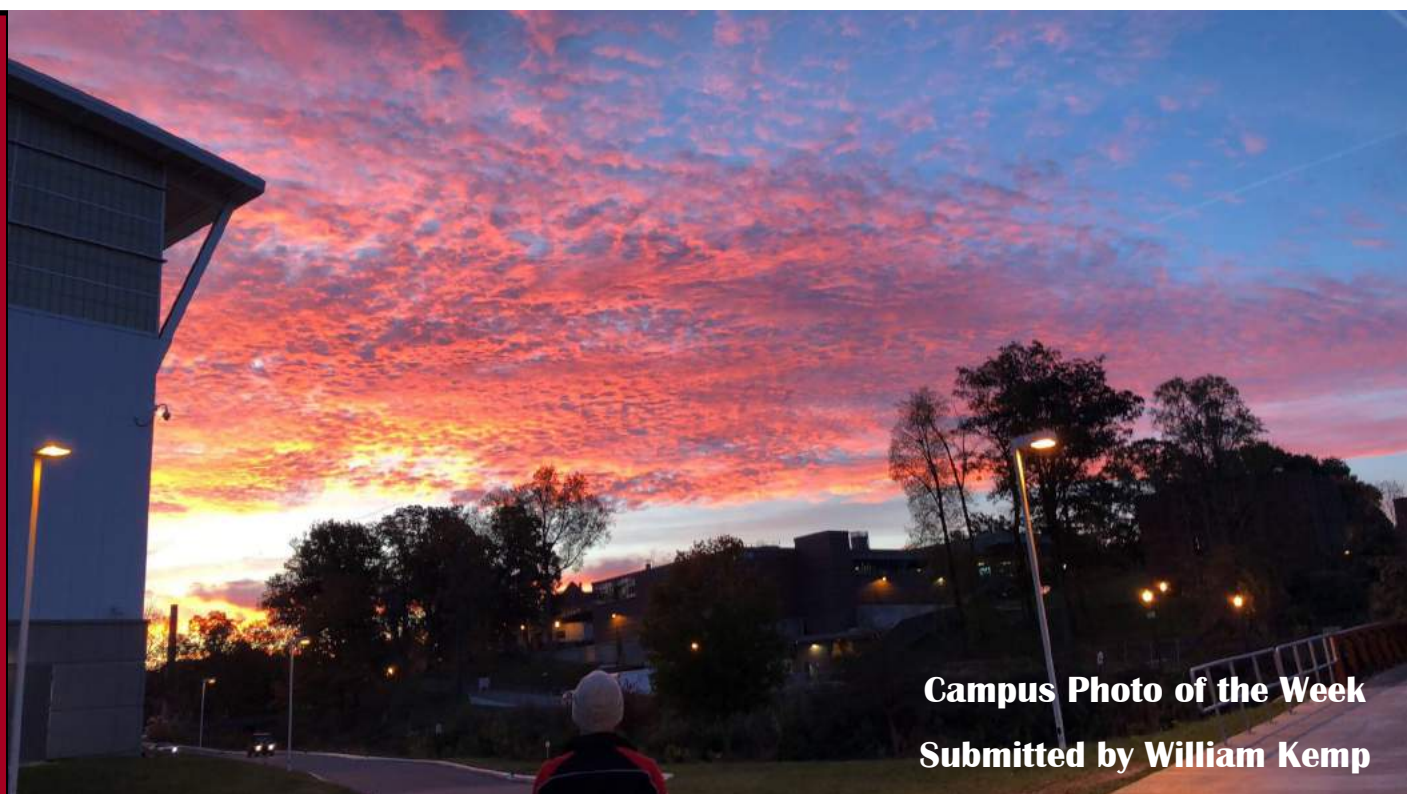


For more information  
contact Nolan Hughes • [hughesnc@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:hughesnc@rose-hulman.edu)

## Campus Photo of the Week

**Have a quality campus photo?**

**Submit campus photos to [thorn-biz@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:thorn-biz@rose-hulman.edu) to be featured in The Rose Thorn each week.**



**Campus Photo of the Week**  
**Submitted by William Kemp**

# THE ROSE THORN

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, 5500 Wabash Ave, CM 5037, Terre Haute, IN 47803-3920 • [Thorn@Rose-Hulman.edu](mailto:Thorn@Rose-Hulman.edu)

## Our Mission Statement:

We are Rose-Hulman's independent student newspaper. We keep the Rose-Hulman community informed by providing an accurate and dependable source for news and information.

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Jared Gibson • *Staff Writer*  
Thomas Hall • *Staff Writer*  
Morgan McDonald • *Staff Writer*

ISSUES of The Rose Thorn are published on the second through ninth Mondays of each academic quarter

WEEKLY MEETINGS occur at 5:15 p.m. on the first through ninth Tuesdays of each academic quarter. All members of the Rose-Hulman community are welcome to attend.

SUBMISSION of articles, photographs, art, and letters to the editor is encouraged. Submission may be made by email to [thorn@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:thorn@rose-hulman.edu) or in person to Percopo room 031. The submission deadline is 5:00 p.m. Friday.

THE RIGHTS to accept submissions or changes made after the deadline, to edit submissions in so far as the original intent of the submission remains unaltered, and to reject submissions deemed inappropriate for print are reserved by the editors.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR should be no longer than 600 words in length and must contain the writer's (electronic) signature.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED herein are those of their respective authors and with the exception of the Staff View do not necessarily represent the views of the staff or the Rose-Hulman community.





## News Briefs

Hailey Hoover and Jared Gibson

### Staff Writers

#### Botched Bombing in Time Square

Last week in New York City, an attacker went into a crowded subway and detonated a bomb. Thousands of citizens fled the smoke-filled scene in a haste. A number of police officers came in and began to cover the scene as everything reached a standstill.

Luckily the bomb had failed to detonate so the only person that was injured from the incident was the attacker himself. The attacker was captured through all of the chaos and the smoke. He was later identified as 27 year old Akayed Ullah. He told police that his actions were motivated by the United States' involvement with the ISIS targets in Syria and other places. He picked this particular location

because of the Christmas posters that were around the area.

This was the third attack that has taken place in New York since September 2016. Two months ago there was one in which eight people died in an attack that took place near the Hudson River. These attacks have been classified as having a "lone wolf" attacker.

Overall with this attack it was very fortunate that no innocent people were killed or harmed in any way.

Hopefully this does not become a habit and we will not see news of any more attacks in New York City or anywhere else for that matter.

The election being in Alabama made preexisting data even harder to find, considering that Alabama has been red for so long now and Republican candidates win by such a large margin, so a lot of pollsters don't bother analyzing election results as carefully as they would in other states.

Second, there were multiple accusations of sexual misconduct brought against Republican candidate Roy Moore by women who said he mistreated them when they were teenagers. Moore denied that any of these accusations were true, but they definitely had an effect on the election. For example, a couple of 'high-profile' Republicans have spoken out against Moore because of the allegations. Alabama Senator Richard Shelby said that the "Republican Party can do better." Senator Cory Gardner, chair of the

National Republican Senatorial Committee said that his committee would never support Moore, and even if he wins the Senate should vote to expel him.

Either way, the result of the election meant trouble for the Republicans. A loss would mean the Republicans would have to suffer defeat in a state that, historically, has been loyal to the Republican party whereas a win would mean that the Republican Party has to deal with one of their senators battling some serious allegations of sexual misconduct. Fortunately for them, the latter is not a problem since the sexual allegations were enough to make a red state turn blue, and thus cut the Republican advantage in the Senate to 51-49.

#### One State, Two State, Red State, Blue State

The special election to replace former Alabama Senator and current General Attorney Jeff Sessions came to an end last Tuesday (December 12). Democratic candidate Doug Jones narrowly defeated Republican candidate Roy Moore late last Tuesday by a slim margin of 20,000 votes (about 1.6 percent of voters), making Jones the first Democrat sent by Alabama to the Senate in 25 years.

Alabama sending a Democrat to the U.S. Senate is pretty big news and a big win for Democrats in a state whose shade of red is so deep that if Crayola produced a box of 50-count crayons, one crayon representing each state, Alabama's crayon would have the words 'quintessential red' inked onto its side. According to an article on theatlantic.com related to the election, "Republican voters outnumber Democrats by roughly a 2-1 ratio in Alabama." So, how did this happen?

Why was this a close race in the first place?

First, special elections are weird, and experts who are typically able to have an educated guess at the outcome are not as reliable in these kinds of elections, especially in Alabama. Polls were all over the place during the day of the election.

One poll put Jones 10 points ahead of Moore while another poll put Moore 9 points ahead of Jones. Special elections, as the name implies, aren't like normal elections; they happen a lot less frequently which means that there are not as many data for experts to look back on and compare with current day data. This comparison of data, helps the pollsters to make their educated guesses. Well, with a less amount of data comes less of an educated guess.



The Republican candidate, Roy Moore (above), was narrowly defeated by Democrat Doug Jones on Tuesday December 12.

Photo Courtesy of Time.com

## NET NEUTRALITY REPEAL

Marc Schmitt

### Editor-in-Chief

The Federal Communications Commission voted last Thursday to repeal net neutrality regulations. The commission voted 3-2 along party lines.

Republican commissioner Ajit Pai argued that repealing the rules will foster innovation and improved access for underserved communities. Critics have argued that repealing net neutrality will allow internet service providers, like Verizon and Comcast, to charge consumers to access specific internet services, limiting choice and blocking competition.

The controversial move

comes after widespread outcry over the implications of the rule repeal. Numerous consumer and industry groups came out against the repeal, including major technology companies such as Facebook, Amazon, Netflix, and Google.

Consumer groups and technology companies in favor of neutrality are promising legal action to save the rules.

Among the controversy behind the vote was evidence of a campaign to influence public opinion and flood the FCC with millions of fraudulent public comments (See graph).

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman concluded that there were millions of fraudulent

comments filed with the FCC. Schneiderman has called for an investigation into the comments, and has set up a website that allows individuals to check if their information was used to file a fake comment.

One FCC commissioner, Democrat Jessica Rosenworcel, called for the vote to be delayed, pointing to over half a million fake comments left from Russian email addresses.

Consumers are unlikely to see the effects of the vote for some time to come. The repeal goes into effect in several weeks, but it will be awhile before internet service providers are expected act on the repeal.

### How the FCC's 21 million net neutrality comments break down

Only a fraction of them are unique submissions — the rest are duplicates.

#### Keep net neutrality rules



#### Repeal net neutrality rules



Source: Emprata

Note: Comments through Aug. 22.

recode

The Federal Communications Commission received record amounts of comments regarding the repeal of net neutrality rules. Many of those comments have been shown to be fraudulent.

Graphic Courtesy of Recode

The Rose Thorn  
Tuesdays  
O259 5:15pm

Journalism  
Isn't Always  
Black and  
White.

Write about what  
matters.

Write for the News  
Section.



## The Boys are Back in Town

### A Review of Grand Tour: Season Two

Thomas Hall

Staff Writer

The UK version of Top Gear was one of the longest and most viewed shows in the world; until, Jeremy Clarkson, one of the three acclaimed hosts, punched the producer in the face after he was not able to get food after a day of shooting as he was promised. This of course lead to his firing. The other two presenters, Richard Hammond and James May, then decided to quit and follow Jeremy to make a new show on one of the online streaming services. After a lot of bidding, Amazon ultimately ended up with the contract and the world sat back to see what the boys could do when they didn't have the BBC telling them what they could and couldn't do.

Much to the surprise and disappointment of many, the first season of the new show, The Grand Tour (named for when in the 18th and 19th centuries young men would leave their family home and travel in order to acquire new skills and a deeper understanding of the world) failed to live up to expectations. There were a few gags that were universally hated. Chiefly, a segment called "Celebrity Brain Crash," in which a celebrity would come and play a game in the tent where the grand tour was filmed, but they would never actually make it in the tent to play the game, they would instead die as they were walking up. Trust me it was terrible. Also hated was the new test driver which they named "The American," who would talk during his laps which no one enjoyed, especially because everyone still loved the old Top Gear test driver, the stig, who was unable to speak. Due to the BBC's copyright on a test driver which you

"Season Two, so far, has recaptured the Top Gear magic that was lost in the transition."



Time for a road trip!

Photo courtesy of motor1.com

cannot see the face of or hear, they had to come up with something else. However, it brings me much pleasure to report that both of these segments have been sacked in the new series.

Season Two, so far, has recaptured the Top Gear magic that was lost in the transition. They have replaced Celebrity Brain Crash with Celebrity Face Off, in which two celebrities go head to head to see who is the fastest in their field. Also replacing the American is a new female test driver that, in the show, they never say her name instead using only pronouns. I think this

shows a big step for The Grand Tour seeing as all the hosts are men and previously on Top Gear all the stigs were men as well. I think this move shows a desire to get more women interesting in what has traditionally always been a very male dominated sub-culture. The return to form is not only just the travel segments, but branches from the reviews to the studio sections. If you were a fan of the old Top Gear, then I highly recommend giving The Grand Tour Season Two a watch.

New episodes are available for the next nine weeks, debuting on Fridays on Amazon Instant Video.



## A Ballad About Discovering A Guitar

### A Review of Rush's 2112 Album

Andrew Henderson

Staff Writer

In early 1976 the Canadian progressive rock band Rush was in dire straits. Their last album, Caress of Steel (the third Rush album) had lower than expected sales with mixed to negative critical responses. With decreased numbers on their show too, Rush's label Mercury Records was contemplating dropping the band. However, the label decided to give Rush one more album, hoping the band could recoup some of their losses from the last year. Most bands in this situation would have

made a simple, uncontroversial and average album in this situation, yet against pressure from the label, Rush's next album 2112, would be anything but that. Their next album would be an incredible risk taker, going unusual directions in both lyrics, instrumentals, storytelling, and song lengths.

The most important song in Rush's new album was the song the album gets its name from. The song 2112 is a 20 minute long ballad about the discovery of a guitar by a man while living in an dystopian authoritarian society. The song has 7 parts, the first which is called "Overture", a reference to the song 1812 Overture by Pyotr Tchaikovsky, from which a small sequence is borrowed. Overture contains only instrumentals and synthesizer songs until the part ends with the biblical line "And the meek shall inherit the earth". It also has over two and a half minutes of improvised guitar solos.

The next part called "The temple of Syrinx" is about the priest of the so-called temple of Syrinx who are the leaders of the authoritarian society in 2112. This is my favorite section of the song, with great lyrics, amazing vocals and some of the best guitar riffs you will see in the ballad.

The next section called "Discovery" tells how the protagonist discovers the old guitar and falls in love with the music. In this part Rush does a spectacular job of interlinking the jubilation that the protagonist is feeling with the happy and almost jumpy strings the part's instrumentals make.

In "Presentation", the protagonist shows his discovered guitar and his new music to the Priests, hoping they will accept the guitar and he will become a hero. However, the priests reprimand him for his discovery and destroy the guitar.

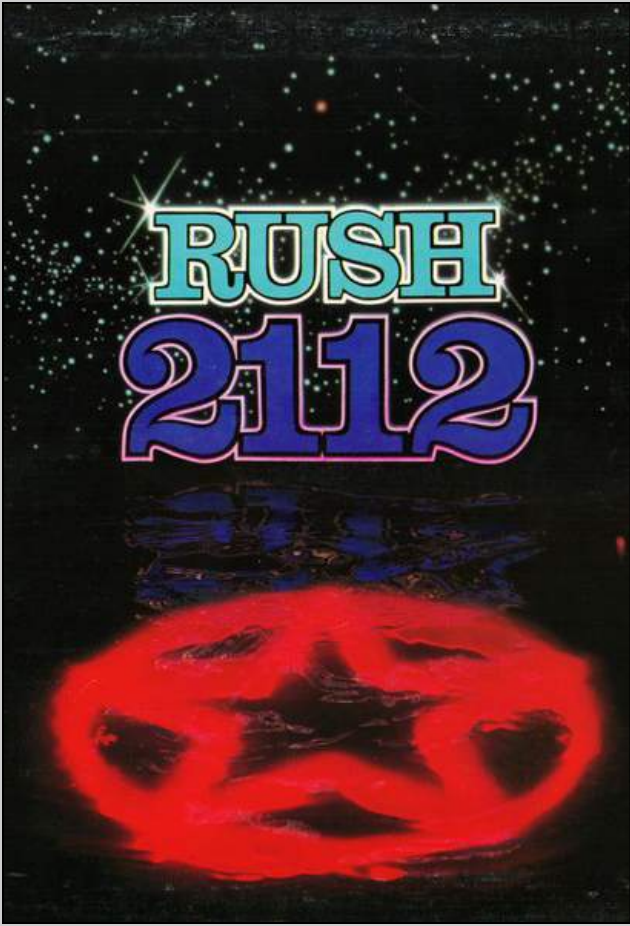
Next, "Oracle" takes place in a dream the protagonist is having after the presentation, where he sees another planet filled with joyful people he calls the elder race playing music and living free from the control of the priests. Depressed and believing that he will never be free like the elder race, in

"Soliloquy" the protagonist spirit breaks and he commits suicide.

The final section is "Grand Finale", which like the first section is entirely instrumentals and guitar solos until the very end. There a voice sounding like it's coming from an intercom systems announces "Attention all members of the Solar federation, Attention all members of the Solar Federation. We have assumed control, we have assumed control", concluding the song on an ominous, but open ending.

"Attention all members of the Solar Federation. We have assumed control..."

The album 2112 was a complete critical success selling 3 million copies in the US alone, and would be the second best sold album for Rush only beaten by Rush's eighth album Moving Pictures. The album is also placed by many music magazines in the top 10 progressive rock albums and was even in 1001 albums you must hear before you die. However, the song was not released without controversy, as the song 2112 was credited to "the genius of Ayn Rand" since the song was quite similar to her novella Anthem, which lead to the media labeling the band as far right. 2112 both as an album and as a song are quite wonderful pieces of music, and to this day lay as an example of truly spectacular and revolutionary progressive rock.



2112 saved Rush from being dropped by their label after a disappointing album.

Photo courtesy of Discogs



# Lets Take a Listen: Yaeji

## Ghost in The Shell Meets Modern House Music

Seun Ladipo  
Lifestyle Editor

Up and coming Musical Artist Yaeji, Born Kathy Yaeji Lee, is a 24-year-old singer/songwriter/DJ based out of Brooklyn, New York. She blends the genres of House, Garage, and Hip-Hop to make a futuristic sound that establishes her style in a class of its own. This along with her vocals being sung in both English and Korean add many unique qualities to her work.

She released two extended plays in 2017 dubbed Yaeji and EP2. Whenever I listen to her music I feel like I just walked into an Asian Nightclub in where everyone wears only neutral colors. The year is 3005 and we have somehow evaded total world destruction and are instead living in a society devoid of deadly conflict. This may seem oddly



The artwork for EP2.

Photos Courtesy of king-img.com

specific but her album and in particular the songs “passionfruit” and “drink i’m sipping on” off of EP2 give me this eerie vibe.

These two collections are a bit all over the place in terms of construction although that is almost expected. She is a self-supported artist at this point in time which is evident in that they are both EP’s rather than full albums themselves. That being said I am interested to see what she is capable of if and when she produces a blown album.

This style of music is so intriguing I would not be surprised if we saw her as a producer of a playlist for an anime movie as her mix of both Western and Eastern influences in her music really separates herself from the crowd mixing perfectly into both cultures.

I am excited to see her flourish into a much bigger artist after listening to a refreshing new sound is seems like for the first time in a long time. I think that anyone reading this should definitely go and give her a listen as well. What is the worst that could happen either you find a new artist that you like or you can say you are better than all your friends because you found Yaeji back in 2017 before she went triple platinum on the 2025 billboard top 100 with her hit single DespYaejicito featuring Pre Malone, Blue Ivy, and North West.



Vaporwave + anime = Yaeji

Photos Courtesy of timeincuk.com

# Festive Fruitcake

## Does it even have fruit in it?

Recipe Courtesy of Allrecepies.com  
Ingredients

1/8 cup chopped dried cherries  
1/8 cup chopped dried mango  
1/4 cup dried cranberries  
1/4 cup dried currants  
2 tablespoons chopped candied citron  
1/4 cup dark rum  
1/2 cup butter  
1/4 cup packed brown sugar  
1 egg  
1/2 cup all-purpose flour  
1/8 teaspoon baking soda  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/4 cup unsulfured molasses  
2 tablespoons milk  
1/4 cup chopped pecans  
1/4 cup dark rum, divided

### Directions

1. Soak cherries, mango, cranberries, currants, and citron in 1/4 cup rum for at least 24 hours. Cover tightly, and store at room temperature.
2. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Butter a 6x3-inch round pan or loaf pan and line it with parchment paper.
3. In a large bowl, cream together butter and brown sugar until fluffy. Beat in egg. Whisk together flour, baking soda, salt, and cinnamon; mix into butter and sugar in three batches, alternating with molasses and milk. Stir in soaked fruit and chopped nuts. Scrape batter into prepared pan.
4. Bake in preheated oven for 40 to 45 minutes. Cool in the pan for 10 minutes, then sprinkle with 2 tablespoons rum.
5. Construct time machine capable of bi-directional time travel.
6. Cut out one piece parchment paper and one piece cheesecloth, each large enough to wrap around the cake. Moisten cheesecloth with 1 tablespoon rum. Arrange cheesecloth on top of parchment paper, and unmold cake onto it. Sprinkle top and sides of cake with remaining rum. Wrap the cheesecloth closely to the surface of the cake, then wrap with paper. Go back 10 weeks in time place in an airtight tin, and age for at least 10 weeks. If storing longer, douse with additional rum for every 10 weeks of storage adjusting for time machine accordingly.



I just threw up a little...

Photos Courtesy of Claxton Fruit Cake



# Opinions

# 6

## CB... Oh No

Timothy Wynia  
Guest Writer

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has generally maintained an impression of being non-partisan and delivering unbiased economic analyses that are important in shaping public perspective regarding proposed laws. But it remains to be seen whether the CBO will continue to be non-partisan during the Trump era.

Several recent reports published by the CBO suggest that the organization may be selectively choosing its analysis methods to give results favorable to the Trump administration. In its preliminary analysis of the GOP tax plan, the CBO opted to use a dynamic scoring model, a type of model that tries to account for how the economy responds to policy changes. Dynamic models tend to be more favorable to tax-cuts since they often make generous assumptions regarding the economic

## Assumptions let the CBO put a finger on the scale.

growth that will result. Though not intrinsically bad, dynamic models require the CBO to make a number of subjective assumptions regarding the macroeconomic effect of policy changes. This can introduce errors, and the assumptions made can also function as a way for the CBO to put a finger on the scale and manipulate results.

The Center for Budget and Policy Priorities aptly summarizes the concern stating, “Estimates of the macroeconomic effects of policy changes are highly uncertain. Economists differ substantially on the size of macroeconomic feedbacks from reducing marginal income tax rates or other changes in taxes or spending.”

In the same vein, the CBO released a study on the economic effects of legalizing “Dreamers,” and found that the changes in spending and tax revenue would lead to a cumulative net cost of \$26 billion. Here the CBO differed from its previous analyses on the subject and choose a static model for estimating the economic effects, rather than the previous dynamic models which found that legalization would produce a net benefit.

The conservative Washington Times reported as much, noting, “The new CBO report looked only at the taxes paid and benefits collected by Dreamers. It did not include a “dynamic” score looking at the costs and benefits once the effects on the

economy are included. Past CBO estimates of broader immigration legalization bills have done “dynamic” scoring, and those found legalizing migrants would be a positive factor in the near term because there would be more people working above board, paying taxes.”

There may very well be valid justifications for the CBO choosing the economic models that they did, but it is a cause for concern that the CBO chose the modeling assumptions most favorable to the Trump administration. The GOP healthcare bill largely failed because the CBO found that it would cause millions to lose insurance. If the CBO begins producing unbiased results, it will give the Trump administration more leeway to enact their agenda without opposition. As the saying goes, “numbers never lie, but liars often use numbers.”

# Please do NOT celebrate Christmas if you are not Christian

Dalal Bima  
Staff Writer

“Please do NOT celebrate Christmas if you are not Christian”. This was a tweet I read a few days ago that truly caught my attention. We are all aware that it is the holiday season; everyone is excited to gather around family and friends to celebrate and have a good time. However, there are many that choose not to celebrate the holidays for a variety of reasons.

This tweet has opened a long discussion between my friends and I, a group of Saudi Muslims that have been living in the United States for a while. The question that rose was whether it was wrong to celebrate other religion’s holidays. In order to start understanding the situation, we can begin by defining the word celebrate itself. According to the dictionary, the word celebrate is to acknowledge a significant or happy day or event with a social gathering or an enjoyable activity, while another definition connects the word with religion by defining it as a performance of a religious ceremony. Therefore, from these two definitions one can refer to “celebrating” as an enjoyable social event or as a religious performance.

However, a survey that was released by the Pew Research Center, which suggests that American attitudes are changing towards Christmas being a conservative religious holiday, shows that only 56% of the interviewees who celebrate Christmas believed that the religious elements of Christmas are less emphasized during the

celebration. Thus suggesting that “celebrating” Christmas, or maybe even other holidays, has become more of a cultural holiday with little to no religious entanglement.

Therefore, holidays like Christmas, Thanksgiving, and Halloween, do not have to be affiliated with religion. While Christmas continues to be incredibly popular, a majority of people are growing to celebrate it as part of the culture, especially among younger generations. So, the question does not become whether it is wrong or right to celebrate other religion’s holidays or if you were “eligible”, it is more of whether you are interested enough to try different cultural events, whether out of curiosity or a form of showing friendliness.

One example of such mentality was when the International Student Association (ISA) here at Rose celebrated Diwali, or the festival of light. Diwali is one of the most popular festivals of Hinduism, celebrated by countries such as India, Singapore, Malaysia and many more. During Rose’s Diwali celebrations, many students showed up that were not necessarily from these listed countries; there were American students, Arabs, Indians, and Asian students. This event showed a beautiful diverse community that was accepting of each other and supportive. Did they have religious connections with Diwali? Probably not, but they came out of curiosity and desire to learn about these cultures.



Friends of Dalal’s during Eid. Left to right: Hindu, Catholic-Jew, Muslim

Photo via Dalal Bima

While celebrating any holiday is a matter of choice, it should not be wrong to say that religious and non-religious people can be a part of that celebration even if it has no significant religious connection to them.

# Push It To The Limit

Seun Lapido  
Lifestyle Editor

Amid both the current and longstanding controversies in sports surrounding rampant doping scandals and substance abuse, I want to provide a counter argument. I believe that we as a human race should allow for the highest level of athletes to use performance-enhancing drugs and should have a “by whatever means necessary” mentality to achieve the peak of each sport. That being said I do not believe we should force athletes to partake in such behaviors, but instead create a new “open” class where there are minimal regulations allowing for the peak ability of humans to perform things that have never been seen before on this planet.

For the sake of this article, I will refer to this as the “Super Olympics”. I see this competition

as the Formula 1 of athletics, a minimally regulated contrast to the strict NASCAR-style competitions that are commonplace in today’s society. This would allow for sports to flourish in competitiveness and innovation as world class athletes would now have the ability to elevate themselves to a new and unprecedented level.

Many people will have a litany of problems with the concept of the Super Olympics. However, this way no one is forcing you to get better at your sport through physical exercise and training when to reach a new peak these practices must be employed. This new rule of allowing an athlete to enhance their performance by any means necessary does not force them into anything, but merely allows them to take that extra step in order to become the greatest, fastest, strongest, version of themselves. Though there are plenty of risks

## This would be the Formula 1 of athletics.

associated with performance enhancing drugs especially, it is the responsibility of the athletes themselves to be at least reasonable in their quest to achieve the impossible.

Again, I must reiterate that this is just a concept and I do not know all the details. But how amazing would it be to have an Olympic-style competition full of the gifted athletes fueled to be the greatest possible athletes by the most advanced technologies their countries have to offer. Each and every athlete would be representing their nations in a truly glorious display of athletic ability.

In a perfect world these ath-

letes would be able to return to their daily lives or training with no lasting effects, but under such extreme circumstances this cannot be possible. Many of these substances have lasting effects. That said, there is a chance that some of these substances may instead prolong the athlete’s career or even help them return to a normal life after their career is over. Such reasons are why this is such a highly debated topic, though I believe that a world with a Super Olympics is a definite possibility in the future.



# Razma & MacInnis

Blake Powell  
Sports Editor

Rose-Hulman volleyball players Bailey MacInnis and Gabi Razma are the first teammates to earn first-team CoSIDA Academic All-American honors in the history of women’s athletics at the college.

MacInnis and Razma were chosen as two of just seven first-team selections from over 400 institutions that play NCAA Division III volleyball nationwide. The Fightin’ Engineers is the only institution with two-first team selections.

Rose-Hulman combined Academic All-America total ranks No. 10 nationally among NCAA Division II institutions and in the top 30 among all United States colleges.

MacInnis earned first-team all-HCAC for the second year in a row. She ranked in the national top 75 in kills per set and hit overall percentage this season. Her season totals included 372 kills, 122 digs and 49 total blocks.

MacInnis is now in the top ten in Fightin’ Engineers history with 866 career kills.

Razma was named HCAC Defensive Most

Valuable Player for her efforts this season. Razma caps her career off as a four-time first-team al-HCAC selection and a two-time HCAC Defensive Most Valuable Player.

Razma finished the regular season ranked No. 12 in NCAA Division III in digs and No. 14 in digs per set this season. She holds the Rose-Hulman single-game and career school records for digs.

The CoSIDA Academic All-America Team is voted on by nearly 400 NCAA Division III sports information directors and CoSIDA board members from across the country.



The definition of student-athletes.  
Photo By USAtoday.com

# RHIT Football

Blake Powell  
Sports Editor

Rose-Hulman junior Mike Riley has been selected to the 2017 Associated Press Little All-America Division III football team, which was released on the national organization on Dec. 14th.

Senior defensive back Alec Thompson, senior punter Matt Murray and sophomore running back Garrett Wight were chosen as three of just 50 total Academic All-America selections over 300 institutions that play NCAA Division III football nationwide.

Riley is one of four defensive linemen chosen to the first


-team All-America squad. Riley finished the 2017 regular season as the NCAA all-divisions leader in sacks with 17 and sacks per game with 1.7 to set a new Rose-Hulman single-season record.

Riley is the 19th All-American selection in the history of Rose-Hulman football, and is the first chosen to the AP

Little All-America squad since Kyle Kovach in 2011. Riley is also the first Fightin’ Engineer since Todd Holthaus in 1992 to earn first-team All-American honors from a nationally recognized organization.

Rose-Hulman students have now combined for 132 Academic All-American awards, including 32 consecutive years with at least one Academic All-American.

The 32-year streak ranks sixth among all NCAA institutions and first in NCAA Division III. Rose-Hulman has earned 27 total Academic All-American accolades since 2002, which 16 have come from the last seven years under head coach Jeff Sokol.



Mike Riley once had five sacks in one game.  
Photo By Rose-Hulman Athletics

# RHIT SPORTS BOX SCORES

RHIT Men’s Basketball

Blake Powell  
Sports Editor

Rose-Hulman rallied back from an eight-point second half deficit to defeat Manchester University 77-72 at Hulbert Arena on Saturday afternoon.

The Fightin’ Engineers placed four players in the double figures: Luke Callahan with 19 points, Craig McGee with 16 points, Ryuji Aoki with 14 points, and Nick McGrall with 11 points.

The men’s team will travel to Boyce College tonight. Tonight is the first time ever for these two teams to face-off.

Congrats on your win this weekend and good luck in your next few games Fightin’ Engineers.

MEN’S BASKETBALL	1	2	FINAL
ROSE-HULMAN(3-6)	33	44	77
MANCHESTER(1-8)	37	35	72

Standout Performers

Luke Callahan– 19 points, 8 rebounds and 2 steals  
Craig McGee– 16 points, 4 assists and 3 rebounds

RHIT Women’s Basketball

Blake Powell  
Sports Editor

Rose Hulman won their sixth straight game in a 73-42 face-off against Manchester University.

The win was the 18th straight victory over an HCAC opponent an 29th straight win at home in Hulbert Arena.

For the game the Fightin’ Engineers shot 60.8% from the field, 100% from the free throw line and 57% from the three-point line.


Rose-Hulman will have a few weeks off for the Holidays. The Fightin’ Engineers will face off on January 3rd against Han-over College.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL	1	2	3	4	FINAL
ROSE-HULMAN(8-3)	22	19	18	14	73
MANCHESTER(2-6)	8	6	15	13	42

Standout Performers

Alyzia Dilworth– 14 points, 5 assists and 4 rebounds  
Ally Bromenschenkel– 12 points and 6 rebounds  
Sophie Brooks– 12 points, 8 rebounds, and 5 assists

# RHIT Player of the Week



Luke Callahan is the RHIT Player of the Week. Callahan led the team with 19 points, 8 rebounds and 2 steals in the men’s basketball team’s conference win over Manchester University. Callahan is a two-year member of the Fightin’ Engineer basketball program. Callahan is involved off of the court as well by being a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Congrats on the win over Manchester and good luck the rest of the season.

Photo by Rose-Hulman Athletics

# Intramural Standings

Greek B

	TEAM NAME	W	L	T	GP	STREAK	STANDING
	Sigma Nu	2	0	0	2	W2	1st
	Fiji– Sham Yao	3	0	0	3	W3	1st
	Pike Garnet	2	1	0	3	W1	2nd
	Triangle B	1	1	0	2	W1	3rd
	Delta Sig	1	1	0	2	L1	4th

Volleyball

	TEAM NAME	W	L	T	GP	STREAK	STANDING
	Sigma Nu	3	0	0	3	W3	1st
	Fiji 3	2	0	0	2	W2	2nd
	Pike Garnet	2	0	0	2	W2	2nd
	Pike Gold	2	1	0	3	W2	3rd
	Triangle B	1	1	0	2	L1	4th

Res Hall B1

	TEAM NAME	W	L	T	GP	STREAK	STANDING
	Ball Stars	3	0	0	3	W3	1st
	East 3	3	0	0	3	W3	1st
	Lakesquad	3	0	0	3	W3	1st
	Cankle Breakers	1	1	1	3	W1	2nd
	Speed 3 Pointers	1	2	0	2	L2	3rd

	TEAM NAME	W	L	T	GP	STREAK	STANDING
	Beasts of Weast	3	0	0	3	W3	1st
	Net Effect	2	0	0	2	W2	2nd
	Game Good Goo	2	0	0	2	W2	2nd
	Hit Squad	2	1	0	3	W1	3rd
	IM Frisbee	1	2	0	3	L1	4th



# National 7 Day Forecast

National Roast Suckling Pig Day	18	National Hard Candy Day	19	National Sangria Day	20	Crossword Puzzle Day	21	National Date Nut Bread Day	22	National Roots Day	23	National Eggnog Day	24
Answer The Telephone Like Buddy The Elf Day- "Buddy the Elf. What's your favorite color?"		National Oatmeal Muffin Day		Mudd Day		Humbug Day- "Bah."  Phileas Fogg Win A Wager Day  Winter Solstice  National Flashlight Day  Yule  National		Anne & Samantha Day  Forefathers Day		Festivus  National Pfeffernusse Day		Christmas Eve	

ASK THE NAKED LADY RIDING A FISH

## Home for the Holidays

**Dear Lady:** Last spring, I accidentally made a bet with a demon that I would have a girlfriend by Christmas 2017. Time is running out and girls just aren't interested in my oozing sex appeal! I'm getting desperate, and have just hired a girl from Craig's List to be my fake girlfriend. Will this be enough to fool a demon?



- Getting Close to Demon Days

**Dear Demon Days:** I think out of all the stories I've ever heard of people trying to cheat a demon, this is the most hellishly bad. Demons are not three-year-olds or drunk college students. They are demons. I do not think a demon will think that a woman you hired to be your girlfriend is actually your girlfriend. However, you hired her already so you might as well have a good time pulling the wool over your family members' eyes.

In dealing with demonic deals, there are a few ways you can try to not lose your soul or spend your eternity being tortured in the Underworld. Demons are afraid of Hybrid Physics Courses and the Minions™. So try and see if you can't incorporate some of the aspects of these two things into your life. I'm sure that the registrar will help you achieve not having your soul stolen by a demon. And there are some really wonderful Christmas sweaters out there with Minions™ motifs. Of course, spending your whole life living as a fan of the Minions™ will mean that you won't have much of a life at all. Just remember the alternative, and I'm sure you'll be gung-ho for those little yellow abominations.

In order to afford all of the Minion™ merchandise you'll need, you should consider selling your story to anime writers. I'm sure it will be a big hit. Good Luck!

Heard 'Round Campus
"Jared Leto is my favorite Batman."

## WACKY PROF QUOTES

"Infinity is weird, and should not be trifled with."  
-Dr. Timothy All

"I'm going to give you the middle finger in Calculus."  
-Dr. Bill Butske

"I was raised by a pack of wild televisions"  
Dr. Wayne Tarrant

Did your prof say something hilarious or just great out of context? Did you hear something amusing on your jaunt about the fine halls of this institution? We want to hear about it! Send your quotes with who said it to [thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:thorn-flipside@rose-hulman.edu) or fill out this nifty google form: <https://goo.gl/forms/bB339sx6GHohggYt1>



Photo Courtesy of Kaelyn Bock

## Decent Loaf of the Week

Merry Christmas, ya filthy animals.

## Top 10

White Elephant Gift Ideas

1. (Fried) Fruit Cake
2. Peanuts... for the White Elephant...
3. Homework
4. Get out of Tuition Free Card
5. Subway Gift Card
6. (Used) Murder Weapon
7. A Used Condiment
8. An Empty Beer Bottle Planted in Soil
9. A Facebook Gift Card
10. A Hard Drive with a Single Bitcoin on it
11. A Brick of Salt
12. Nolan Hughes' Autograph
13. 50 Copies of the Rose Thorn
14. Bottom Shelf Vodka (What a deal!)
15. A Pillow with Nicolas Cage's Face on it
16. A Single Sheet of Engineering Paper
17. Blu-ray Copy of the Bee Movie - Director's Cut
18. Expensive Vodka Brand Bottle with Vinegar in it